Seri/al No. 08/235,827

## IN THE ABSTRACT:

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A method and apparatus for expanding a video graphics adapter (VGA) text character to fully fill the screen of a flat panel display. Is described. The present invention stores binary information representing a horizontal row of character text. A prescribed bit in the binary information may be set to determine whether to duplicate pixels associated with the binary information in either a horizontal or vertical direction. A circuit is provided to ensure that foreground and background characteristics of the graphics character text being expanded are consistent with the sent prescribed bit in the binary information.